

## Choice Poetry.

## THE WIND OVER THE CHIMNEY.

BY H. W. LONGFELLOW.

See, the fire is shining low,  
Dank red the embers glow,  
While above the still I cover,  
While a moment more I linger,  
Though the clock, with tinkling power,  
Points before the midnight hour.

Sings the blackened log a tune,  
Lamenting its own forgotten fate,  
From a secret log it plays,  
When they both were young together,  
Heart of youth and summer weather,  
Making all their holiday.

And the wind night riding,  
How! how! how! how! how! how!  
Ever above there in the dark,  
In the midnight air, the wind,  
Ever above, ever grander,  
Like the wind of the olden days.

All the busy chimneys blow,  
Every quivering tongue of flame,  
Seems to say to the wind,  
But the night wind never answers,  
Hollow  
In darkness slinks your fire!

Then the flicker of the flame,  
Glimmer of yolked old days,  
Written by the wind of the night,  
Laid through those old majestic pages,  
Like the wind of the olden days,  
Through the large spaces of the heart.

And again the language of flame  
Starts up, and the wind answers,  
In the breeze of the night,  
In the breeze of the night,  
In the breeze of the night,  
In the breeze of the night.

But the night wind cries "Despair!"  
That you walk with feet of air,  
That you walk with feet of air,  
That you walk with feet of air,  
That you walk with feet of air,  
That you walk with feet of air.

"Dust are all the hands that wrought,  
Books are the hands that wrought,  
Books are the hands that wrought,  
Books are the hands that wrought,  
Books are the hands that wrought,  
Books are the hands that wrought."

Suddenly the flame flicks down,  
Sinks the embers low,  
And the wind of the night,  
And the wind of the night,  
And the wind of the night,  
And the wind of the night.

And I answer: "Though it be,  
Why should that discomfort me?  
No comfort is in it,  
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wildest features of nature, he found it impossible to look around him and enjoy the magic of the night.

Joe employed himself in attending to his horse, feeding the fowls and dogs, and playing with the fawn and kitten. He also practiced loading and shooting his musket, and endeavored to learn the mode of doing execution on other subjects, without committing violence on himself.

"Joe," said Glenn, one bright, frosty morning, "saddle the horse; we will make an excursion on the prairie, and see what success we can have without the presence and assistance of an experienced hunter. I designed awaiting the visit of Boone, which he promised to take place about this time; but we will venture out without him; if we kill nothing, at least we shall have the satisfaction of doing no harm."

Joe set off toward the stable, smiling at Glenn's joke, and heartily delighted to exchange the monotony of his domestic employment, which was becoming irksome, for the port of the field, particularly as he was now entirely recovered from the effects of his late indiscretions, and began to grow weary of waiting his ammunition in firing at a target, when there was abundance of game in the vicinity.

"Whoop! Kingwood!—Jowler!" cried he, leading the horse, and galloping round him, as if he were himself at the prospect of a day's sport; and when Glenn came out, he exhibited palpable signs of recognition, and eagerly to accompany his new master on his first hunt. Glenn stroked his head, which were constantly rubbed against his hands, and his carcases were gratefully received by the faithful hound, who had been instructed by Boone how to manage them, so as either to keep them at his side when he was about to approach the game, or to send them forth when rapid pursuit was required; and he was now anxious to test their sagacity.

When mounted, the young men set forward in a westerly direction, keeping the hound and the rymann's cabin was situated on one hand, and one about the same distance above the other. But the space between them gradually widened as they progressed, and in a few minutes both appeared entirely, terminating in scarcely perceptible rivulets, running slowly down from the high level ground, and in a few minutes both appeared to terminate where they should take. The sun shone brightly on the interminable expanse before him, and not a breeze ruffled the long dry grass, which lay in a level, unbroken plain, and yet that clung to the diminutive clusters of bushes scattered at long intervals over the prairie.

Glenn was a delicate man, and from the high position of the sun, he could distinctly see the miles distant on the plain; and if the landscape was not enlivened by houses and domestic herds, he could at all events, keeping the hound parties of deer browsing peacefully in the distance. Ringwood and Jowler also saw or scented them, as their attention was pointed in that direction; but so far from marring the sport by premature running forward, they knew too well their duty to leave their master, even were the game within a few paces of them, without the word of command.

"I see a deer!" cried Joe, at length, having till then been employed gathering some fine wild grapes growing in a thicket, but I am not sure I get within gun-shot of him, is the question.

"See them, too," said Joe, his eyes glistening.

"I have thought of a plan, Joe; whether right or wrong, is not very material, as respects the success of the hunt, but I am sure I shall have it. It is the proper one. It will at all events give you a fair opportunity of killing a deer, as you have not been able to do so for some time, and you are certainly entitled to do so, as you have been so long waiting for Boone, who has not yet come."

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with excitement, he drew his gun up to his shoulder, and pulled the trigger. It snapped, perhaps fortunately, for his eyes were convulsively closed at the moment; and recovering, measurably by the time the next came up, the gun went off, and he found himself once more prostrate on the ground.

"What in the world is the reason you won't stand still?" he exclaimed, rising and seizing the pony by the bit. The only answer Peter made, was a most ungratifying, "Plague take your little horse of mine! I should have killed that fellow, to a certainty, if you hadn't steered the foot continued he, still addressing his pony while he proceeded to load his gun. When ready for another fire, he mounted again, in quite an ill-humor, convinced that all chances of killing a deer were distinctly over for the present, when, to his utter astonishment, he beheld the deer he had fired at lying dead before him, and but a few paces distant. With feelings of unalloyed delight, he dismounted, and lay, and springing to the earth, one moment he whirled round his hat in exultation, and the next was kneeling by the dead animal, and with a groan, when there was abundance of game in the vicinity.

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Ever long, a change came over the scene. About two-thirds of the distance round the verge of the horizon, a faint light appeared, resembling the rays of a distant star, and hanging over the head, and the rays of the morning sun shone under the edge of the thick vapor. But the stars could be seen, and the only appearance of clouds in the immediate distance, the circle of light, and a very few minutes, the terrible truth flashed upon the mind of Glenn. The dim light along the horizon was changed to an approaching flame. Columns of smoke could be seen rolling upwards, while the fire beneath imparted a lurid glare to the wind. The wind blew more fiercely, and the fire approached almost every quarter, with the swiftness of a race-horse. The darkness vault above became gradually illuminated with a crimson reflection, and the young man shuddered with the horrid apprehension of being burnt alive! It was madness to proceed in a direction that must inevitably hasten their fate, the darkness in one moment, and the light in the next, and in front of them, and they turned in a course which seemed to place the greatest distance between them and the furious element. Ever long, a change came over the scene. About two-thirds of the distance round the verge of the horizon, a faint light appeared, resembling the rays of a distant star, and hanging over the head, and the rays of the morning sun shone under the edge of the thick vapor. But the stars could be seen, and the only appearance of clouds in the immediate distance, the circle of light, and a very few minutes, the terrible truth flashed upon the mind of Glenn. The dim light along the horizon was changed to an approaching flame. Columns of smoke could be seen rolling upwards, while the fire beneath imparted a lurid glare to the wind. 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